

## *Hospital Comments on Surgeon Volume*

### **AAA Repair (Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repair)**

Link to General Comments on Surgeon Volume for all hospitals

#### **Reporting Hospitals**

- Boston Medical Center
- Massachusetts General Hospital

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#### **Boston Medical Center**

The AHRQ definition allows us to report only on the volume of direct aortic aneurysm repairs. At Boston Medical Center, we do both endovascular aortic aneurysm repairs as well as direct repairs; adding the endovascular cases would more than double the volume reported for FY04. It should also be noted that our surgeons did additional endovascular and direct aortic aneurysm repair procedures at our Quincy Medical Center site in both FY04 and FY05.

#### **Massachusetts General Hospital**

The MGH vascular surgery division has the state's highest procedural volume of AAA repair. There are two distinct types of operations to treat AAA. The conventional surgery involves a major incision and the AAA is repaired by the surgeon sewing in an artificial aorta. The stent graft (or minimally invasive operation) achieves the same goal (eradication of the AA) by working up through the arteries in the groin. In the past year the percentage of AAA repaired with the minimally invasive approach has grown to 70% at the MGH.